Murther will out:

OR,

A clear and full Discovery that the Earl of *ESSEX* did not Felloniously Murther himself, but was barbarously murthered by others: Both by undenyable Circumstances, and positive Proofs.

By Coll. *Danvers.*

Reader,

THOU hast here a Discovery of one of the most inhumane and barbarous Murthers that any Age or Story can parallel, especially if you consider the Person who, the Place where, the manner how he was Murthered, and the Consequences of them all.

1. *The Person, it was the Earl of* Essex, *one of the greatest men in the three Nations, the Son of the great* Capell, *who laid down his Life for the late King, and who himself had sustained so many honourable and great Offices and Imployments in these Nations, filling up no less than a Vice-King-Ship, for many years in the Neighbour Nation, and as he was great in eminent Loyalty, excellent Qualifications, large Patrimony, and honourable Allies, so no less a sincere Lover of his King and Country, and a zelous Assertor of the Protestant Religion, and Interest against the cursed Machinations of the Popish Party, which was therefore become his Crime, and rendered him so obnoxious.*

2. *The Place where he was Butchered, which was no other than in his Majesties Royal Prison and Palace, where (by design as it appears) he was brought the better to fall a Sacrifice to his Enemies. Being first lodged in the Lieutenants House, then removed to his Slaughter-house Capt.* Hawleys, *and there kill'd the day after,)* Where being now the Kings Prisoner, and out of his own defence, and for whom the King and Kingdom were respondent, *as Sir* Fran. Bacon *observes in Sir* Tho. Overberries *Case, in the E. of* Somersets *Tryal,* was a thing that greatly aggravated the Fact, for certainly, saith he, Sir *Tho D.* was the first Man that was murthered in the *Tower* of *London,* save the Murther of the two young Princes, by the appointment of *Richard* the 3. this being it seems the second, *with this further Aggravation, that it was done at the very instant the K. himself was there in Person.*

3. *The manner how,* viz. *The Popish Conspirators (his mortal Enemies) having thus gotten him within their reach, do by hired Cut-throat Villains and Traytors, most barbarously and Treacherously surprise, assault, and bloodily assassinate this great Worthy in his own Chamber; cutting his Throat, almost to the cutting off of his Neck, and afterwards by other Ruffians (and that against the K. express Command) inhumanly drag, shamefully strip him, and basely expose his naked Body to publick view. And as tho this was not sufficient to satiate their malice and Blood-thirstiness, thus to murther his Person, they proceed (to the out doing of* Cain *himself) to murther his Reputation, by charging their horrid Guilt upon himself; making him the Fellonious Self-murtherer: And pursuing to the utmost Revenge, Slaughter and Cruelty, any that should dare to speak the Truth, or contradict the same.*

4. *And as for the dismal Consequences, (some whereof have direfully appeared) which being unpossible to express, is less to every ones Consideration.*

But he who makes Inquisitive for Blood, who sees in secret, and brings to light the hidden Works of Darkness, hath by his Providence, greatly detected the same, both as to Persons and things: Some Account whereof you have for your satisfaction, in the following compendious Collection.

The Proofs both Circumstantial and Positive, that the E. of E. did not Felloniously Murder himself, but was Barbarously Murdered by others.

1. *That he did not Murther himself you have evinced.* 2. *From the Improbalities that he should do it.* 3. *From the Impossibilities that he could so do it.*

2. *That he was Murthered by others you have made good.* 1. *By undeniable Circumstances.* 2. *By Positive Proofs offered.*

1. That the E. of *E.* did not Murther himself, as the Inquest declares: appears.

1. *From the Improbabilities that he should so do;*

1. Because of that excellent Sedate and well composed Natural temper he was well known to be of, and free from such Melancholy and Frentical fits, which might incline and expose him to such a mischief, what ever maliciously and sullily had been said to the contrary.

2. Because of that grace and fear of God, he was so eminently endowed with, which would secure him from such impiety.

3. Because of that abhorrency by Principle which he was well known to have of such unnatural practises (whereof he could not speak without great emotion of Spirit) what ever the better to colour the Murther, and fix it upon him, had been most villanously reported, and spread abroad, to the contrary.

4. Because of the careful Provision he made for his own preservation, after he came into the *Tower* fearing the worst. 1. By sending for his own Silver Vessel to dress his Meat in by his own People. 2. By that store of all sorts of Wine, he had ordered to be laid in for his own drinking. 3. By the direction he had given to his Servant, to take Notes of my Lord *Russels* Tryal, that very day, for his own use, all ample indications he designed self preservation, not self destruction.

5. Because, as his Conscience was clear from any Treasonable Guilt, (whatever to the contrary has most wickedly been suggested) so was he free from either Legal Witnesses, or Conviction, there being no Bill of Indictment found against him, as against others the day before, which might sufficiently secure him from needless fears, or any such desperate course, tho had his zeal and affection to his King, Country, and Religion, (whom he might apprehend to have been in danger) transported him to any irregularity, his Fathers, as well as his own, extraordinary merits, from the Crown, might well be supposed (from so grateful and compassionate a Prince) would plead his Pardon, and free him from such desperation.

6. Because of that intire Love and Friendship he bore to his most dear Lord, the Lord *R.* which both in Honour, and Conscience, would forbid

and deter from such an Action, which must so necessarily tend to the certain ruin and destruction of his best Friend, and which fell out accordingly from the sinister construction they made thereof.

7. Because of the previous notice given thereof in divers places, which to be sure he would never have done, had he designed any such thing.

2. *From the Impossibilities that he could so do as the Inquest declares.*

1. Because it was impossible that he at one cut (as the Verdict saith) could cut 4 Inches in depth, and 8 in length, because none can manage his hand, to guide a Razor so to do at once, *viz.* From the left-side of the Neck-bone, to the right.

2. Because it is impossible that with that French Razor, which was but 4 Inches and a half long, and without a Tongue (necessitating to take 2 Inches and a half at least in his Hand) that he could with 2 Inches of such an Instrument cut 4 or 5 Inches in depth and 8 or 9 in length.

3. Because it is impossible in Nature that when he had cut the left Jugular and Wind-pipe to the Neck-bone (which let out so much of the Blood and Vitals) that he could have either life or strength, to proceed to cut the other also, as all skilful Chyrurgeons and Anatomists can demonstrate.

4. Because it was utterly impossible, that after he had lockt himself into the Closet, he could so cut his Throat as it was, and then open the Closet Door, and fling the Bloody Razor out of the Chamber Window, at such a distance from the Closet, and then get the Razor up again, and keep it in his hand (as some) or fling it by him (as others) and all this after he was Dead, for he instantly dyed saith the Inquest, and none but himself in the Room say their Witnesses, therefore it was impossible he could with that Razor so Murther himself. And that the Bloody Razor was flung out of the Chamber Window, is made good by no less then 10 Witnesses.

Thus have you some Grounds and Reasons (from the improbability and impossibility of the thing) to clear his Innocency from the Horrid Fact, so impudently charged upon him, and consequently the guilt of others, and which may be sufficient to all wise Men, to detect the Murther, and inforce a review, if no other Evidence could be produced: ten fold less, has done it, in other Cases, it being so difficult many times to get light, and trace such Secret hidden works of darkness, as Sir *Fran. Bacon* elegantly in Sir *Tho. O.* case tells us, *That wise men must take upon them in these Secret Cases*, Solomons Spirit, *that when there could be no Witnesses, Collected the Act by the Affection*, *viz.* When he used the Stratagem about dividing the Child, but this you'l find is not our case, providence having given us a larger provision as you will further hear.

Secondly that he was Barbarously Murthered by others appears. 1. By the

undeniable Circumſtances ariſing 1. *From the previous Reports.* 2. *From the corrupt and partial Proceedings of the Coroner and his Inqueſt.* 3. *From the Conſpirators Villanous ends.* *And* 4. *From the wicked Methods uſed to ſtifle it.*

1. *By the undeniable Circumſtances ariſing,*

1. *From the many previous Reports which they had ſpread of his ſelf Murther* (a Method the Papiſts have therefore taken (but the Policy thereof never underſtood) *viz.* When the ſtobbed *H.* the Fourth of *France*, burnt *London*, aſſaſſinated Sir *E. B. G.* and murthered *Hawly* the Warder) of which, divers undeniable Proofs have been, and are ready to be produced, of ſuch Reports, not only in *London*, but 50. 60. 80. 90. 100. Miles off, in ſome places a day, in ſome two days, in others (at a great diſtance) the very Day he was murthered: And as moſt remarkable (as God would have it) all agreeing in the very manner thereof, *viz.* Cutting his Throat in the *Tower*, At *Andover*, 60. Miles off, they had the Report of his Cutting his Throat in the *Tower* the 11*th.* of *July*, which was the firſt day of his Impriſonment there (for by reaſon of his late Commitment, the Night before he lay at the *French* Lord *Feverſhams* in *White-hall*) which ſufficiently diſcovers what they deſigned before hand, for if this Report came from *London*, it muſt be before he was a Priſoner, at leaſt in the *Tower*, and two days before the thing was done.

2. *From the irregular, corrupt, partial and unjuſt Proceedings of the Coroner and his Inqueſt.*

1. That one *Farnham*, ſaid to be a Deputy Coroner, which the Law knows nothing of, and to be ſure a Legal Coroner he was not, Sir *Thomas Stringer*, the Steward of the *Tower*, being the proper Officer, and accountable for that great Truſt, but this is the Tool who muſt be brought forth to do the Job.

2. That none of the Relations were ſummoned to attend the Inqueſt, which by known Uſage ought to have been.

3. That contrary to the known Cuſtom and Uſage, not only of our own, but other Nations, as well as the Kings ſpecial and expreſs Command, the Body was removed from the Place and Poſture it was ſaid firſt to be found in, Cloaths taken away, and Body and Rooms waſht from the Blood, to prevent the Notoriety of the Fact upon the View, and as ſaid, by the new Coroners Contrivance or Conſent (which makes it the more hainous and ſuſpicious) For had it remained in the Place and Poſture it was ſaid firſt to be found in, the print of the bloody Foot upon the Stockings, the Cravat or Neck-cloth being cut in four pieces in the middle, and the contrary Witneſſes, who ſpake both as to Place and Poſture, would have clearly diſcovered the Murther. The notched Razor, and cut Hand, being moſt pregnant Circumſtances, yet little regarded.

4. That the Jury exempted againſt the removing of the Body from the Poſture

Posture and Place, and demanded a View of the Cloaths, which *William Fisher* did by Name, yet was denyed the same by the Coroner, after he had been in the next Room with some of the Conspirators, who had call'd him out upon that Demand, and who upon his return to the Jury again did declare to them (as ignorantly as wickedly) that they were to sit upon the Body, not the Cloths.

5. The partial examination of Witnesses, that though there were several in and about the House when the Fact was done, yet only *Bomeny* and *Russel* who they might justly suspect to be privy to it, must be the principal Witnesses they'l examine in the Case, taking little notice of *Peck*, *Munden*, *Lord*, Captain *Hawly* himself, or the two Women.

6. The little regard had to the notorious Contradictions in the Witnesses, they did, or might examine, *Bomeny* telling them, the Razor was given him (wherewith he cut his Throat) the 12*th.* of *July*, and *Russel* the 13*th.* *Bomeny*, that *Russel* broke open the Door, but *Russel*, that he easily opened it with the Key on the outside; *Bomeny*, that he could only through the Chink of the Door, see some Blood, and some part of the Razor; but *Russel*, that he could through the same Chink see the whole Body; *Bomeny* and *Russel*, that the whole Body lay in the Closet, and none of it to be seen in the Chamber, but *Peck* and others, that part of it lay in the Chamber; *Bomeny* and *Russel*, that they were absent but a quarter of an hour from my Lord, but to others, *Bomeny* owns he was absent from him two or three hours, insomuch as he was cold and stiff before he saw him, some, that he was found lying, others kneeling.

7. That they unduly suffered themselves to be hurried into a Verdict by the Message brought them by Captain *Hawly* in the Kings Name to hasten the same, as though the Death of so great a Man, and in that place too, deserved not a serious and due Search, especially when they saw such foul play offered them, by removing Body and Cloaths, and denying a View of the Cloaths, and when none of the Relations present, and so few of the Witnesses examined, and those in so much Contradiction too.

8. By the unheard of drawing up the Verdict, which was done, not by the Coroner, nor by the Jury amongst themselves, as it ought to have been, but by one of the Conspirators themselves in the next Room, who sent it to them by *Bomeny*, and which they signed accordingly.

9. By giving so wicked and false a Verdict upon their Oaths, which was this, *viz. That the Earl of Essex being the 12th of July alone in his Chamber, did with a Razor voluntarily and Feloniously cut his Throat, giving unto himself one mortal Wound, cut from one Jugular to the other, and by the Aspera Arteria, and the Wind-pipe, to the Vertebres of the Neck, both the Jugulars being throughly divided, of which said Wound the Earl instantly died.*

This was the Conspirators Diabolical Writing, which they imposed upon

upon the Jury, and they made their Verdict both Coroner and Inqueſt, by ſubſcribing it.

It falſly ſaith, he was alone in the Chamber, whereas by the ſlinging out the bloody Razer, as well as by ſufficient Teſtimony it will appear, that ſeveral went up and came out at that time.

It alſo falſly ſaith, he did give himſelf with that Razer one mortal Wound, of ſuch a length and ſuch a depth; which are utter impoſſibilities as before.

3. *From the Villanous ends the Conſpirators had to effect and carry on hereby*, viz.

1. To confirm a Proteſtant Plot, a thing which they had long and often laboured, and as often been diſappointed in, and which was ſo improved by the Atturney General, as 1000 Witneſſes to make it good, as alſo by the Lord Chief Juſtice as the Finger of God, to convince all the World thereof, the ſad conſequence whereof hath ſince been ſo ſeverely felt.

2. Utterly to ſtifle the Popiſh Plot, witneſs the Bailing the Popiſh Lords, impeached and committed by Parliament, out of the *Tower*, and the publick Prints to ridicule the ſame ever ſince.

3. To deſtroy the Lord *Ruſſel*, and therefore done at the very inſtant he was to come to his Tryal, and ſo improved by the Lawyers to the Jury, which ſome of them have owned, did more prevail with them to bring him in guilty, than any other Proof produced againſt him.

4. That they might remove out of the way ſo great a Champion of the Proteſtant Cauſe and Intereſt, who by his great Imployments and Truſts in this and the other Nation, had gained ſo perfect knowledge of their Popiſh horrid Intreagues, the way they have taken of old, both in this and other Nations, and whereof divers inſtances might be given, beſides that of Sir *E. B. Godfry*, whoſe Wounds bleed a freſh at the mentioning hereof.

5. That hereby they might carry on a Helliſh Deſign againſt the King himſelf, as though he had been privy thereto, by not only butchering him in that his Royal Priſon and Palace [where by the Law he becomes Pledge for the Safety and forthcoming of the Priſoner] and at a time when he was there in Perſon, where he had not been for divers years before; and as though he came purpoſely to order the doing thereof, and to intitle the Government to it. Which the Lord Chief Juſtice doth ſo often inculcate: If he was indeed then murthered by others from the Kings preſence there [in *Bradms* Tryal] as alſo by that their horrid Preſumption, in ſending in the Kings Name to haſten and hurry the Jury into that corrupt Verdict, and ſo daringly and contemptuouſly to remove the Body contrary to the Kings expreſs Command by a Perſon of Quality.

4. *From the Methods which have been uſed to ſtifle the Diſcovery hereof, and to deter Men from inquiring into the Matter.*

1. By the Lawyers and Judges, who have declared, that whoever went about

about to prove the E. of *E.* murthered, did no other then libel the Government, and bring the Guilt of his Blood upon it.

2. By the ſtrict Command given by the Officers of the Guards in the Tower the day after the Murther, to all the Souldiers, not to ſpeak one word thereof at their Perils.

3. By the ſevere proſecutions, and perſecutions, of thoſe who have appeared herein, both as to their Eſtates, Perſons, Lives, and Liberties.

Witneſs, the turning out of old *Edward* from his place in the *Cuſtom-houſe*, wherein he had been 39 years, for only bidding his Son upon his Bleſſing ſpeak the truth in the Caſe; and the many ſeverities to Mr. *Bradon* for declaring what others had ſaid about it; and the ſevere dealing with Mr. *Hugh Speak* for the ſame; as alſo that late cruel uſage of that poor Souldier in the Tower, becauſe he would not affirm the E. of *E.* murthered himſelf; who was firſt whipped with Cords till the Skin was flay'd off. 2. After that Scourged with Rods. And 3. put upon the Wooden-horſe with 6 Muskets at his Heels, Sword broken and caſhered. But eſpecially the deſtruction of *Rob. Meak* the Sentinal, for telling what he heard and ſaw that day of the bloody Tragedy; whoſe Neck was therefore broke, and flung into the *Tower* Ditch; who declared before hand to his Friends how his life was threatned for the ſame. As alſo *Hawly* the Warder who was ſerved in like manner for blabbing, whoſe murthered body was about a Month after it was miſſing, taken up near *Rocheſter*, where a great Popiſh Lord declared ſeveral days before he was found, that he had there drowned himſelf.

4. By the endeavours which have been uſed to prevent the Review which by 2 Letters to 2 Noble Men, and the Letter to the Lady *E.* ſent open by a Meſſenger to *Cadman* the Bookſeller, which he brought to Juſtice *Henton*, and he to the Secretary; all of them purporting a diſcovery upon Indemnity and a Review, but all in vain.

2. *By Poſitive proofs, atteſting the Murther, that if Indemnity may be granted as was offered in Sir* E. B. G. *caſe; and a freſh Legal Enquiry, as in Sir* Tho. O. *Caſe, and others, there will then be produced poſitive Evidence, which will declare who were the contrivers and Authors, who the Actors and Abetters of this Barbarous deteſtable Murther, deſcribe the Inſtrument with which it was done, and which was made on purpoſe for the ſame: The rewards and preſuments to the reſpective Actors therein, with all the material Circumſtances about it. Which enquiry, was ſucceſſfully made in Sir* Tho. O. *caſe, after the* Coroners *Inqueſt had found it (as ſaid) a natural death. And by which after more then 2 years ſtifled by a high hand; The then Principal Miniſter of State, and his aſſociates with the Lieutenant of the* Tower *and others were ſearcht into, found Guilty, and many of them Executed for that horrid Murther, committed upon that Innocent Gentleman in the Tower.*

The Conclusion.

Now may not this dismal Tragical account (which carries so much Demonstration in it) be well left without a Comment, or any Rhetorical strain of Wit, or flourish of Eloquence, either to convince or satisfie the Reader of the Truth hereof, or provoke him to the discharge of that duty incumbent upon him in his Place or Station (which so Barbarous and unheard of Murther calls for at his hand) the better to deliver himself and the Nation from the crying Sin of Blood Guiltiness; And which is therefore left to the consideration and Conscience of all that hear thereof in general. And to all the Ministers of Justice and his fellow Peers in special, whose Oaths, Honours, and Interests, may Oblige them to their duties herein; And who in Reason ought to feel the bleeding smart of this Bloody Stab, not knowing which of their own turns may be next. And to his Relations and Kindred in particular, who are more then others call'd forth in a peculiar manner, to make a further and better Inquisition after his Blood, then hath yet been made, especially after this full Discovery is offered to them. As they would vindicate his Innocency, wipe off the stain of Felony, Murther, and Treason, from the Noble Family. Deliver themselves from the reproach of being bribed by the forfeited Estate, to hold their Tongues, and suffer others to be so severely handled as officious for appearing therein, under their silence; And as they would free themselves from the Guilt of his Blood, and answer the neglect to God and Man. Lastly to all those (of which there are many) who either as Accessaries or Actors have imbrew'd their hands in this Innocent Blood, whether since they are secretly known it will not be their wisest and best course (as some did in Sir *Tho. O.* case) to come forth and confess, and give Glory to God, as they may hope for Mercy here, or hereafter: And not to think to shelter themselves under Gold and Greatness; which will be a covering (in this case) too short for the greatest themselves, because God who is the avenger of Blood, and to whom vengeance belongs, will bring all to the House top, and recompence them according to their deeds. There being no Darkness nor shadow of Death, where the workers of Iniquity may hide themselves. Concluding with *Numb.* 35. 30, 31, 33. *You shall take no Satisfaction for the Life of a Murtherer which is Guilty of Death. Whose Killeth any Person, the Murtherer shall be put to Death. So shall you not pollute the Land, for Blood it defileth the Land, and the Land cannot be cleansed of the Blood that is shed therein: But by the Blood of him that shed it.*

Judg. 19. 30. *There was no such deed done nor seen unto this day, &c.*

FINIS.